

“I HAVE A DREAM” – LEARNING ABOUT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Activity Items

The following items are part of this activity and appear at the end of this student version.

- Item 1: Estimated African American Population in the United States
- Item 2: African American Voting Rates in Presidential Elections
- Item 3: Percentage of African American Adults Who Graduated From High School
- Item 4: Percentage of African American Adults Who Graduated From College
- Item 5: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Infographic
- Item 6: Photos of Martin Luther King Jr.

Student Learning Objectives

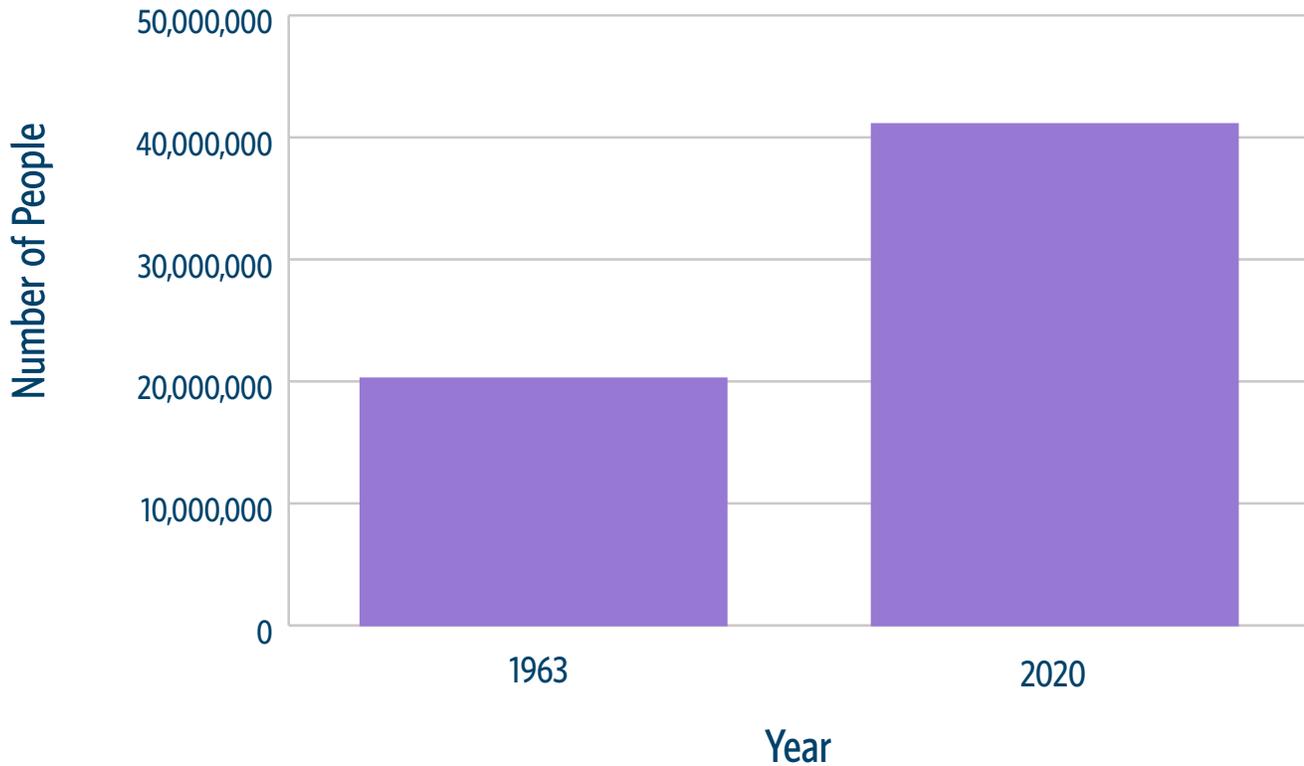
- I will be able to understand changes in population, voting rates, and education levels of African Americans since the early 1960s, around the time Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech.
- I will be able to select facts and a photograph of Martin Luther King Jr. to display on a poster.
- I will be able to share what I learned orally with a partner or small group.

6. Look at your answers and at **Items 1-5**. Why do you think these changes happened?
What kinds of things could have caused these changes?

Part 2 - Create a Poster

Your teacher will provide you with instructions and an example for creating a poster about Martin Luther King Jr.

Item 1: Estimated African American Population in the United States



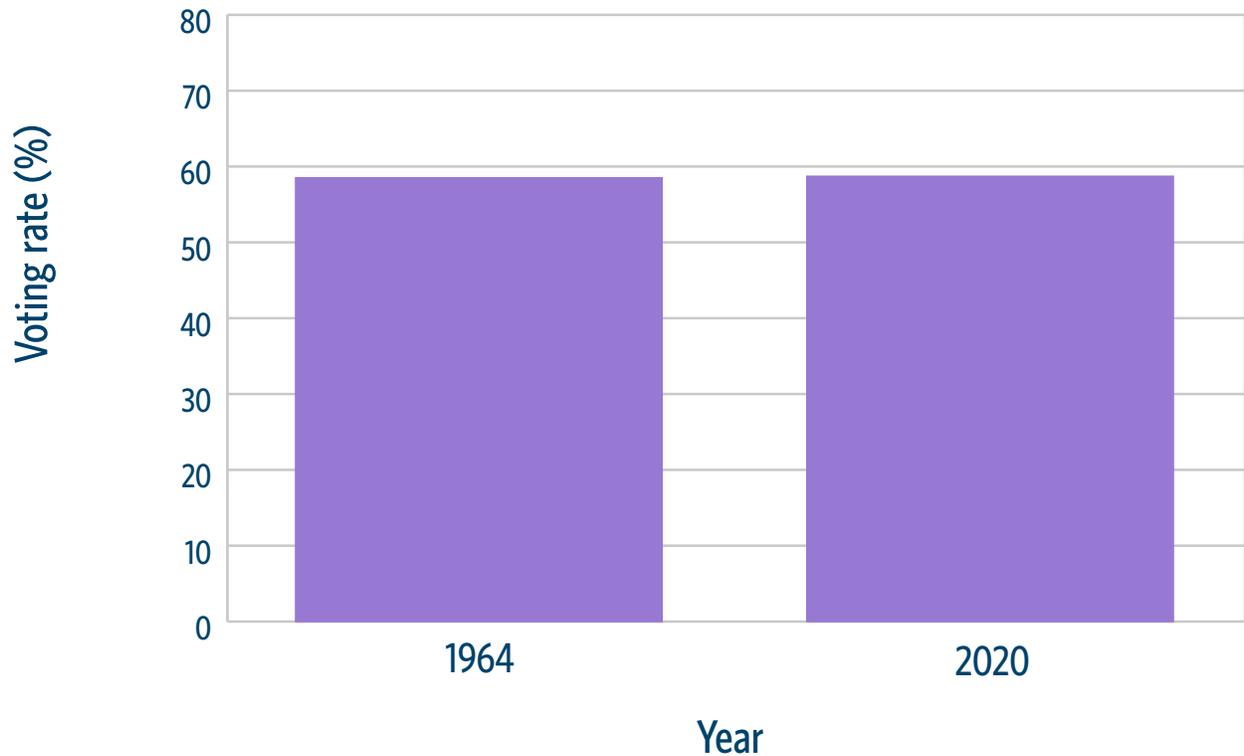
1963 Data Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, Facts for Features, The 50th Anniversary of the I Have a Dream Speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.*

www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2013/cb13-ff22.html

2020 Data Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census, Black or African American alone in the United States.*

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/all?q=black%20population>

Item 2: African American Voting Rates in Presidential Elections



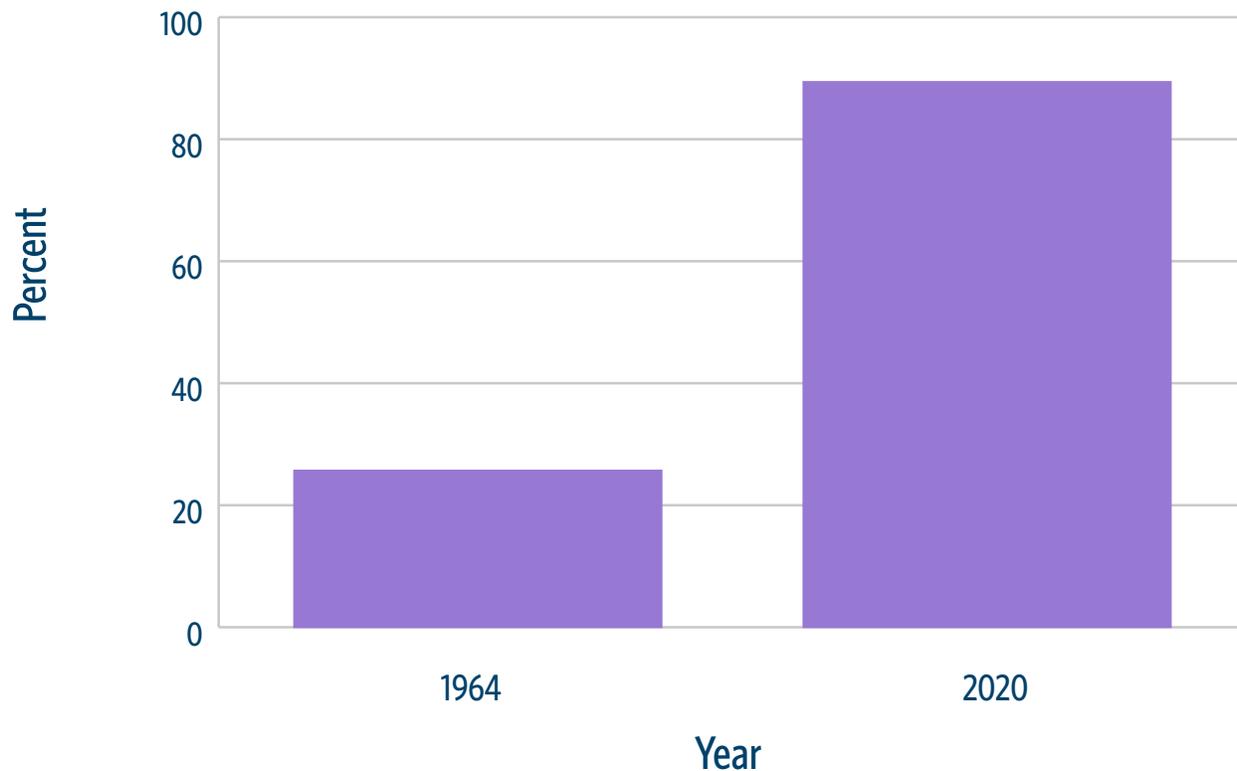
1964 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Facts for Features, The 50th Anniversary of the I Have a Dream Speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.*

www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2013/cb13-ff22.html

2020 Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *Current Population Survey, November 2020 (Table A-9. Reported Voting Rates of Total Voting Age Population in Presidential Election Years, by Selected Characteristics: November 1968 to 2020).*

www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/voting-historical-time-series.html
(Table A-9)

Item 3: Percentage of African American Adults Who Graduated From High School



1964 Data Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, Facts for Features, The 50th Anniversary of the I Have a Dream Speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.*

www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2013/cb13-ff22.html

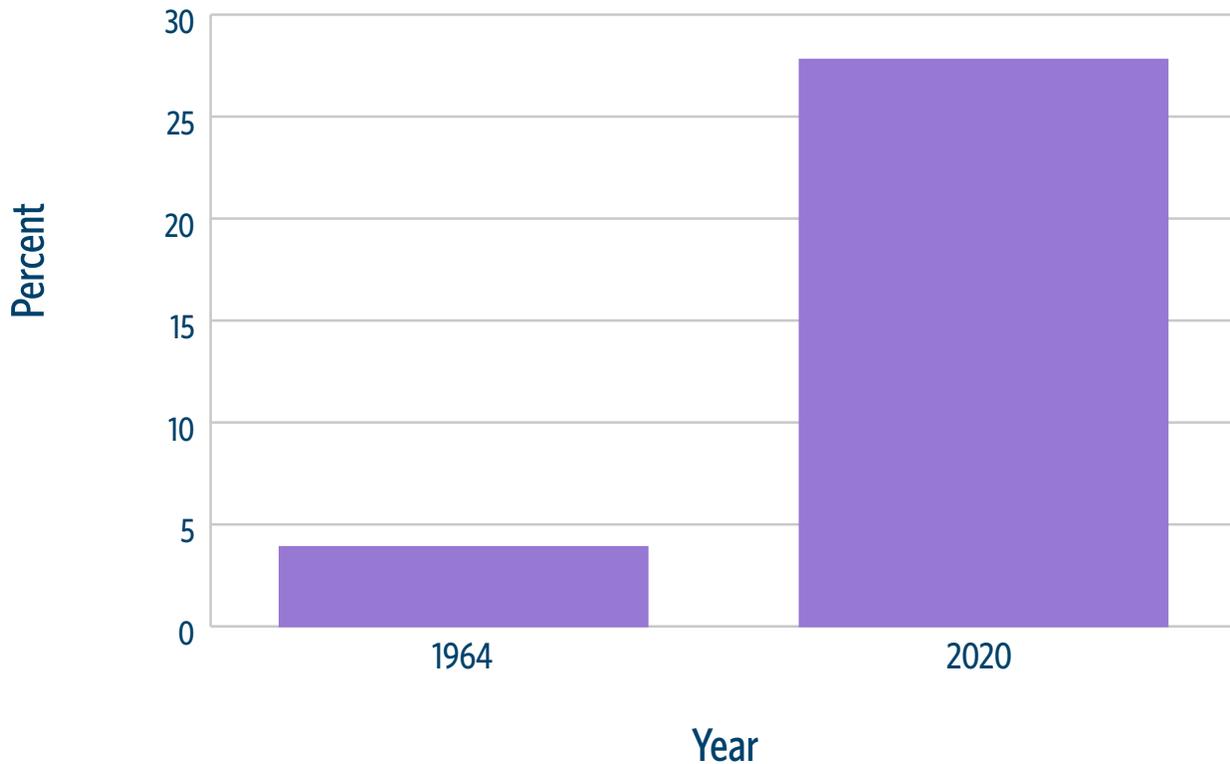
2020 Data Source: *Table A-2. Percent of People 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School or College, by Race, Hispanic Origin and Sex: Selected Years 1940 to 2020.*

www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/educational-attainment/cps-historical-time-series.html

(Table A-2: Completed 4 Years of High School or more)

This graph reflects the percentage of African Americans 25 and older who had at least a high school diploma or equivalent education in 1964 and 2020.

Item 4: Percentage of African American Adults Who Graduated From College



1964 Data Source: *U.S. Census Bureau, Facts for Features, The 50th Anniversary of the I Have a Dream Speech and the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.*

www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2013/cb13-ff22.html

2020 Data Source: *Table A-2. Percent of People 25 Years and Over Who Have Completed High School or College, by Race, Hispanic Origin and Sex: Selected Years 1940 to 2020.*

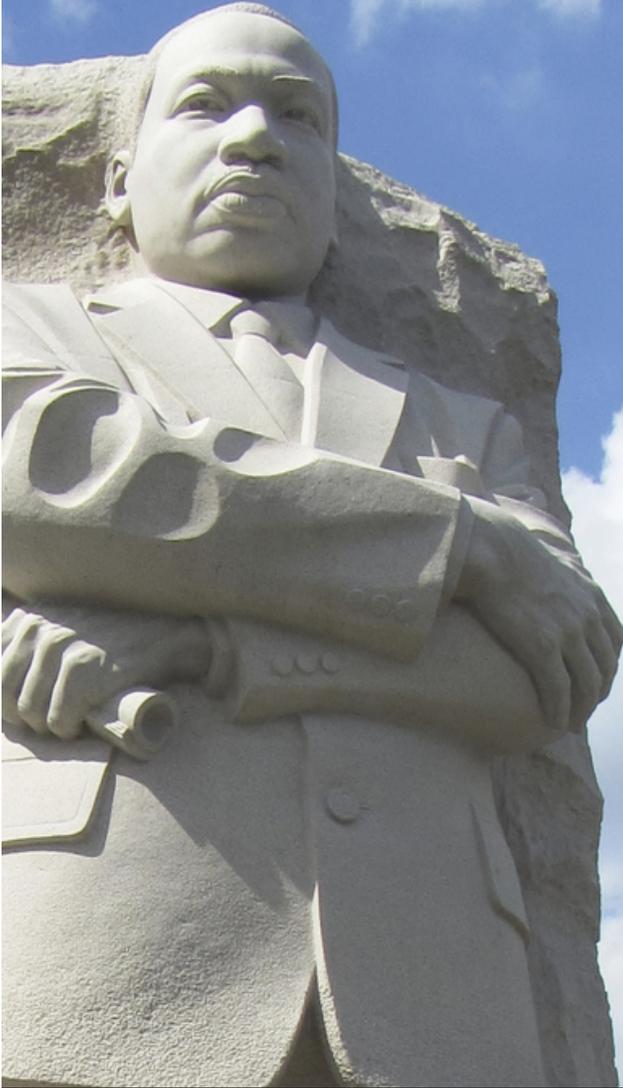
www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/educational-attainment/cps-historical-time-series.html

(Table A-2: Completed 4 Years of College or more)

This graph reflects the percentage of African Americans 25 and older who had a degree from a four-year institution or equivalent education in 1964 and 2020.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Changes in the Nation's African American Population Since 1964



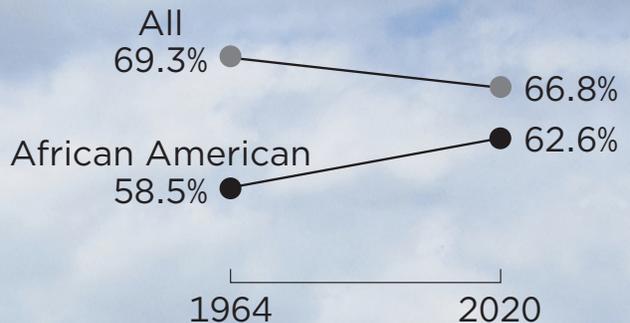
Percentage of African Americans completing high school



Number of African American college students



Percentage of citizen population voting in the United States

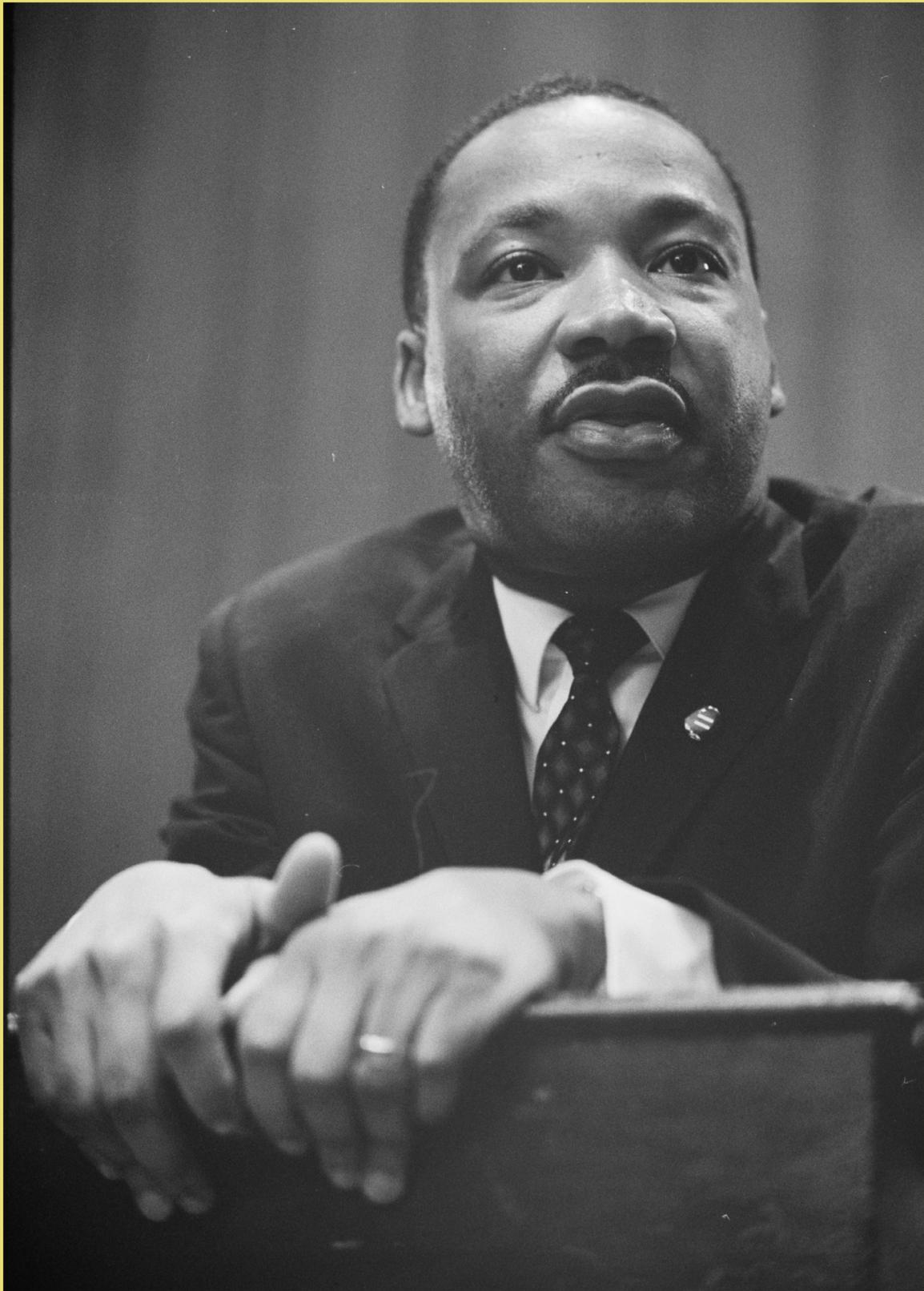


U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Note: African American denotes Black alone (not in combination with other races).
Source: 1964 and 2020 Current Population Survey

www.census.gov/library/visualizations/2022/comm/mlk-jr-day.html

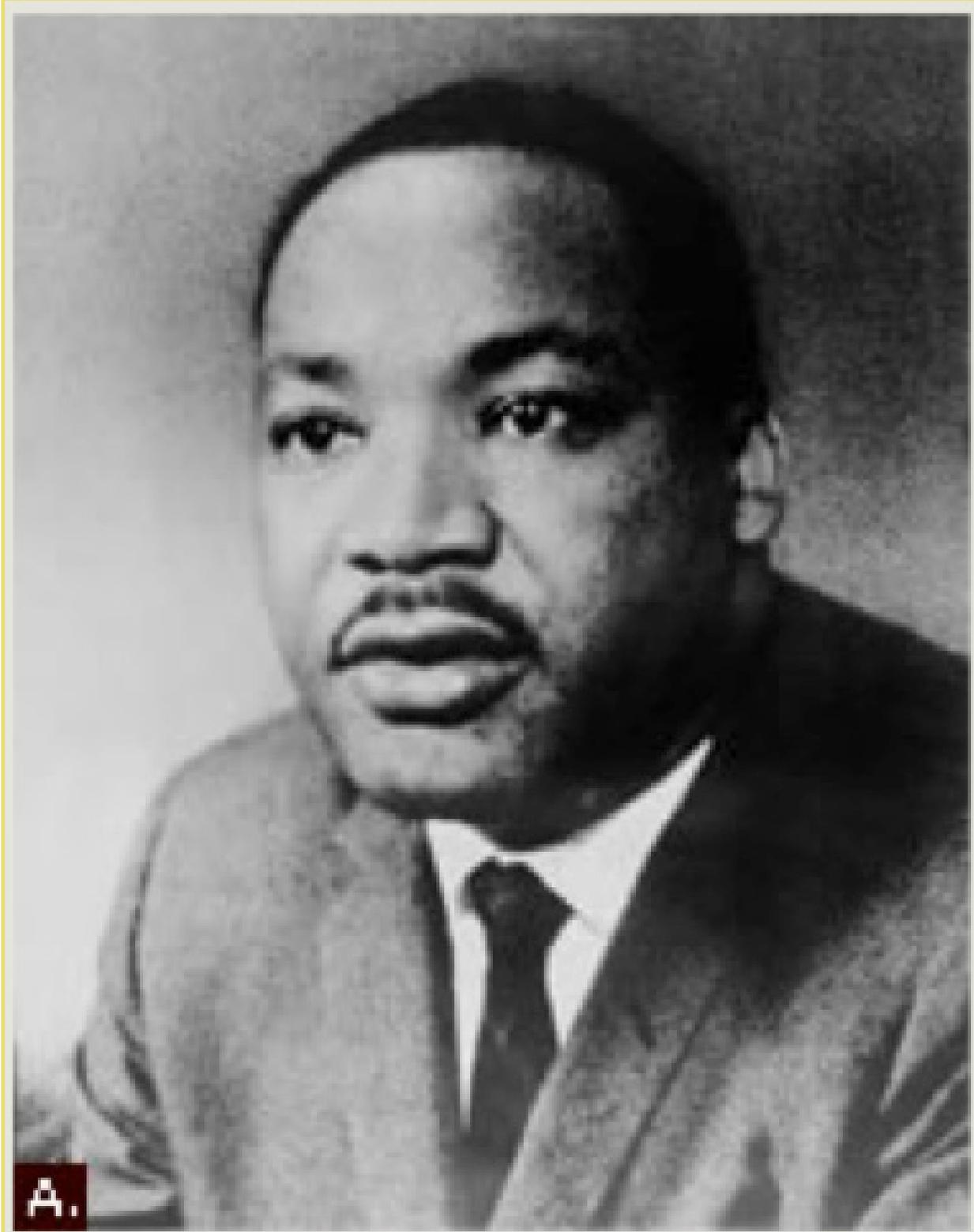
Item 6: Photos of Martin Luther King Jr.
Martin Luther King Jr. press conference. 1964.



www.loc.gov/item/2003688129

Item 6: Photos of Martin Luther King Jr. (Continued)

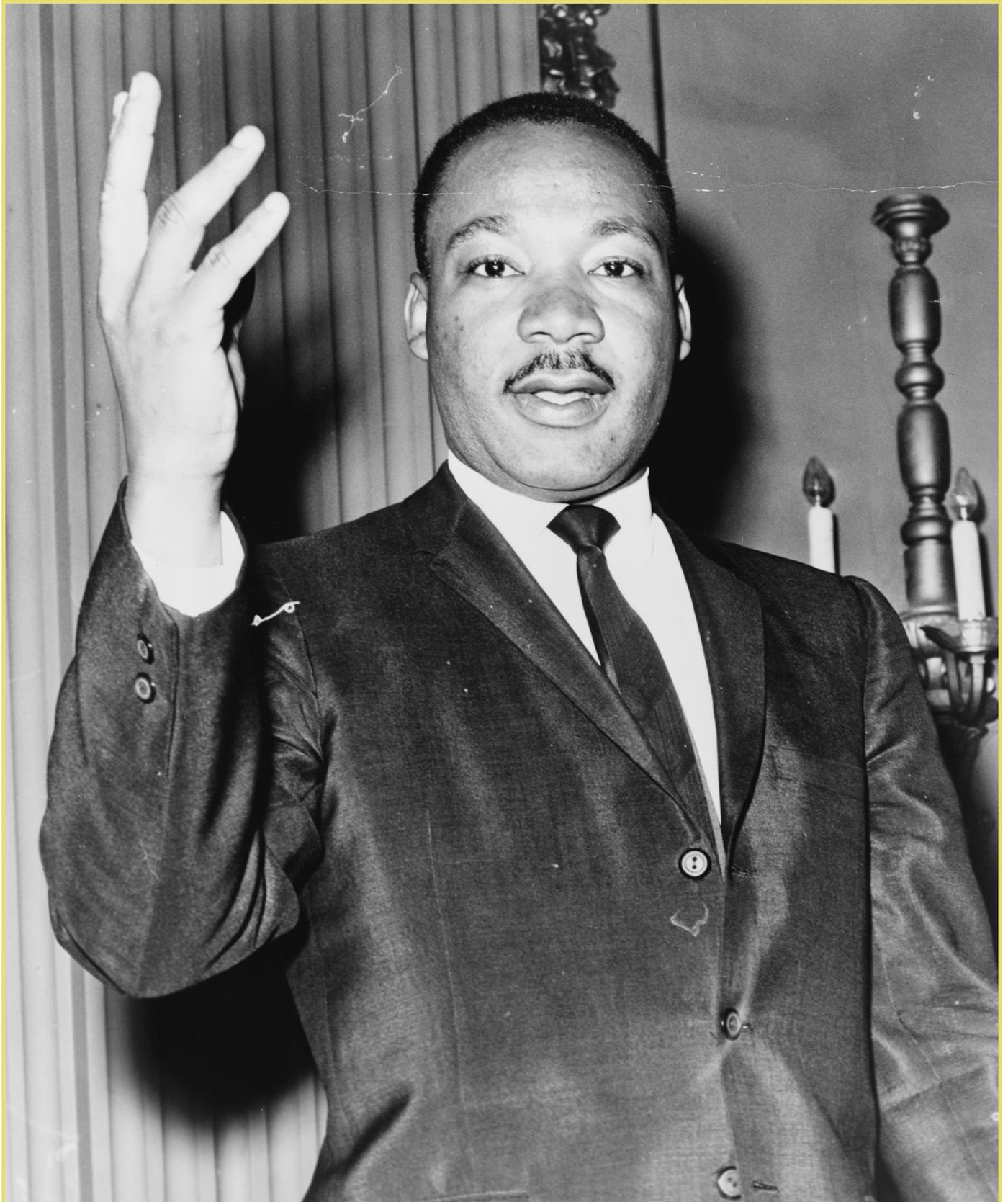
Martin Luther King Jr., 1929-1968 - in memoriam.



www.loc.gov/wiseguide/jan03/kingjr.html

Item 6: Photos of Martin Luther King Jr. (Continued)

Martin Luther King Jr., half-length portrait, facing front. 1964.



www.loc.gov/item/00651714